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27 July 1948

Chief, FBIB

1. In accordance with our conversation, the information below pertains to our Cyprus operation.

2. Due to the fact that many of the employees presently employed in Cairo do not meet the Stateside standards which we hope to maintain when we open our station on Cyprus, and due to the fact that many of them could not meet the security standards which would be jointly acceptable to CIA and the British Government on Cyprus, very few of the present staff in Cairo will be transferred to Cyprus.

3. It is our plan, subject to final approval by the Director, that [redacted], Chief of the FBIB Mediterranean Bureau, (effective 14 August 1948) or [redacted] Assistant Chief of the Mediterranean Bureau (effective 14 August 1948), accompanied by [redacted] who is a well qualified linguist, will proceed in the near future to Athens, Beirut and such other points in the Near and Middle East as may be necessary to recruit a staff for the new Cyprus station. Our plan is to hire people in these locations, transport them to Cairo for training, and subsequently to Cyprus. It is also planned that their dependants and household goods will be transported from their point of employment to Cyprus and that they will be returned to their homes upon the termination of their contracts.

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4. We are primarily in search of linguists who can speak one or more of the languages in that area fluently as well as English. It is highly desirable, of course, that they also be familiar with the geographic, political and economic situation of the countries whose language they are to monitor. The languages which we anticipate using are English, Albanian, Arabic, Bulgarian, Greek, Hungarian, Persian, Russian and provincial dialects, Serbo-Croat, Turkish, Hebrew and Hindustani. It is desirable that the Mediterranean Bureau also be able to cover Armenian, Czechoslovak, French, German, Italian, Polish and Spanish.

5. We had contemplated going to the American University in Beirut and I am sure that if you would write Mr. Penrose a personal letter it will assist us greatly. When you have written this letter, I would appreciate a copy in order that I might forward it to [redacted] on Cyprus.

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6. Your assistance and cooperation in this matter is sincerely appreciated.

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L. K. WHITE